

Tuesday, December 24, 2020— Christmas Eve

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**University Lutheran Church**  
**Lutheran Campus Ministry**  
Christmas Eve Worship Service



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# CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

*December 24, 2020*

## **PRELUDE**

Aiko Yamada Mancini

## **WELCOME**

Gary N. McCluskey, Pastor

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the presiding minister begins.*

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who was in the beginning, who makes a dwelling among us, who covers us with justice and mercy.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** God of goodness and loving kindness,

**C** **we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have turned away from your invitation to new life. We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden. In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins, those we know and those only to you, for the sake of the one who came to live among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

**P** Hear the good news of peace and salvation! God forgives us all our sins, not through our own work, but through + Jesus Christ, made known to all people. With all who come to the manger, rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.

**C** **Amen.**

# OPENING HYMN

# O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

## CHRISTMAS GREETING AND DIALOG

- P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
- C **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**
- P Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.
- C **We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**
- P For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.
- C **In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**
- P May the grace and truth of Christ be with you.
- C **And also with you.**

## OPENING PRAYER

- P Let us pray. Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in

the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **FIRST READING**

**Isaiah 9:2-7**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

## **SECOND READING**

**Titus 2:11-14**

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**P** Alleluia! I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

**C** Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

**Luke 2: 1-20**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. <sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" <sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the

child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

## **SERMON**

Gary N. McCluskey, Pastor

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**P** Glory to God in the highest,

**C** **and peace to God's people on earth.**

**P** Blessed are you, Prince of Peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

**C** **Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**

**P** Blessed are you, Wonderful Counselor. You enlighten the heart with steadfast love.

**C** **Enliven your church that it might bear good tidings of great joy to all people.**

**P** Blessed are you, Emmanuel. You promise to be with us even to the end of the age.

**C** **Open our eyes to see your presence in all who are hungry, lonely, or homeless.**

**P** Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

**C** **Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.**

**P** Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

**C** **Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world. Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**C** Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**

**Now and forever. Amen.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**P** Let us pray. Generous God,

**C** you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the meal of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

## **THE GOSPEL OF THE INCARNATION**

**John 1:1-14**

*The pastor lights a large candle from an altar candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the World of whom John's gospel speaks. Worshipers at home are invited to join along and light a candle.*



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

## **PRAYER**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

# SILENT NIGHT

*Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,*  
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,  
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,

*ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.*  
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.  
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,

*Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher*  
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly  
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your

*Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.*  
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

# BENEDICTION

P Grace from God's own heart, peace from the + Child in the manger, and strength from the Spirit of life be blessings for you today and forever.

C Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

## JOY TO THE WORLD

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin, and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

## **DISMISSAL**

**P** Christ is born!

Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **POSTLUDE**

John Fillo

### **Participants in Worship**

***Pastor***

*Gary N. McCluskey*

***Lector***

*Eliana Valenzuela*

***Director of Music***

*Aiko Yamada Mancini*

***Video and Audio Production***

*Terry Pochert*

*Brian & Aiko Mancini*

***Musicians***

*April Boyden, voice*

*Autumn Boyden, voice*

*Erin Crawford, voice*

*John Fillo, voice, guitar, bass*

*Eric Lenhardt, voice*

*Loni Lenhardt, voice*

*Sophie Lott, voice*

*Anthony Procopio, voice*

*Nils Peterson, voice*

*Aiko Yamada Mancini, voice, piano*